

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 040701
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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AF/E - MR. WAUCHOPE
S/S.SGOLDSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T STATE 040701

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, FR, IT

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN ARMS FOR SOMALIA

REF: KHARTOUM 0590

1. REQUEST EMBASSY OBTAIN FROM SOURCE OF INFORMATION
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE "COBRA" HELICOPTERS AND
ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS MENTIONED IN REFTEL: SPECIFI-
CALLY MORE PRECISE DESCRIPTIONS OF BOTH ITEMS AND ORIGINS
AND PRESENT LOCATION OF EQUIPMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, DETER-
MINE IF POSSIBLE WHETHER OR NOT THE HELICOPTERS MENTIONED
ARE BELL AH-1G/J AIRCRAFT AND WHETHER OR NOT THE APC'S
ARE M-113A1'S PRODUCED UNDER LICENSE BY OTO-MELARA OF
ITALY -- A PROJECT IN WHICH FIAT HAS A SHARE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 040701

2. THE ONLY HELICOPTERS WITH THE DESIGNATION "COBRA"
ARE PRODUCED IN THE US BY BELL, AND THEY HAVE BEEN PROVIDED
TO ONLY TWO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS (6 EACH TO SPAIN AND
ISRAEL). NO FOREIGN FIRM PRODUCES A COBRA-TYPE OF HELI-
COPTER, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE A VARIETY OF ARMED HELICOPTERS
WORLDWIDE. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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